



We are rapidly approaching the end of this term so I thought it timely to write again, reminding you of some of the events before Easter and an update on other things.

Thanks for your understanding during the spells of bad weather we have had. It is always our aim to open school if at all possible, regardless of what other schools may decide to do. Every school has its own situation. Unfortunately, during the most recent spell it was not possible to carry on as usual. As soon as the decision is made, we inform you. Generally this means watching the weather forecast carefully as well as visiting the school site. I hope you can appreciate that this takes time and decisions are not taken lightly. I am hoping that the start of this week sees the last of the snow for 2018! We'll see.

In addition to this newsletter we will be sending out a Parent Questionnaire before the end of term. If you could complete this for us we would be very appreciative. There will be an online part to complete (Parent View) as well as a section on paper.

I hope you find this newsletter useful and informative and I wish you a Happy Easter on behalf of all of our staff.

Kay Hemmings (Head Teacher)



New Roof

Work has begun and we are having to be flexible on a week by week basis. We may need to close the main entrance again but will let you know, via text, as and when this does happen. There is some noise associated with the work but the children are coping well with this.

Den Building Afternoon for KS1 and KS2



What an amazing response we had to our Den Building afternoon and great feedback too. Thanks to all parents, grandparents and other family members who ensured they were free to come and join in the fun. It was a very enjoyable afternoon and we were so lucky with the weather! It's not been pleasant out on the school field since then!

We even managed to get a bit of publicity for our school in the Saturday edition of the Northern Echo – celebrating both our Den Building afternoon and the subsequent camping event that evening.

Fundraising for ShelterBox

27 children in Y5 and Y6 were brave enough to volunteer to camp overnight on the school grounds last Wednesday. They came well equipped with extra duvets and plenty of layers to wear in bed. Marshmallows were toasted on the camp fire as well as everyone spending time exploring the meaning of the picture book 'The Island' continuing with our refugee theme. The purpose of the evening, in addition to the challenge and excitement of camping out in March, was to raise money for ShelterBox. Everyone is now collecting their sponsor money in and we'll update you when we have our final total. If you've not contributed and would like to, it's not too late, just send your money to the office.



Our twitter following has now increased to 241. It really is a great way to keep in touch with what is happening across the school and comment on this. We have found it is also a powerful forum to share children's work. We are @TanfieldPrimary



Sports Relief We're raising money for Sports Relief this **Friday - 23rd March**. Children should wear their favourite sporty clothes and make a donation to aid the campaign. Thank you for your support with this.



Easter Celebration Service

On Tuesday all children from Y3 to Y6, plus the choir members in Y1 and Y2, will be taking part in an Easter Celebration Service at St. Margaret's Church.

This is a first for us and we are really looking forward to it. As stated in our last newsletter we hope that many parents will be able to join us for this. We are anticipating beginning the service as close to 1:30 p.m. as possible. We will be having an early lunch for KS2 children, all children will then walk

to the church and the service will begin once we are all in position - hence the approximate start time. Once the service is finished children whose parents are in attendance will be able to go home with them. The rest of the children will walk back to school for the end of the school day.

If you are not able to attend the service then please make the usual arrangements for your child at the end of the day.

We will endeavour to be back to school for 3:10. Please bear with us if we are little late.

The choir, musicians and children who are reciting poetry will go to the church that morning for a rehearsal. We are then going to take the opportunity to share our children's talent in the community by taking some of the performers to Stanley Park Care Home to share our Easter Celebration with the residents before returning to school for lunch.

We will text the parents of children who will be taking part in this nearer the time.



Egg Decorating

It's our annual Egg Decorating Competition next Wednesday.

Lower School children are to bring their pre-decorated egg into school that morning.

The Upper School children will bring their undecorated boiled eggs (always worth bringing some spare ones) in to school that day, plus any resources they would like to use to assist them in their

decorating. Parents of the Upper School children are welcome to come in to school first thing that morning and assist with the egg decorating in class.

Finally, don't forget about the competition for parents - you are very welcome to decorate your own egg and enter the parent competition - all eggs to be submitted on the Wednesday too. Thank you.

The Friends are holding their Easter Coffee Afternoon that afternoon - Wednesday 28th March - giving all parents the chance to view the decorated eggs, hear the school choir sing, draw the Easter Raffle and enjoy a chat with friends. The Coffee Afternoon will start at 2 p.m. and will finish in time for the end of the school day.




Tanfield Lea Ukulele Players perform at The Sage, Gateshead ☺

On Saturday 17th March our After-School Ukulele Group had the pleasure of performing at a world class musical venue.

They played to a large audience on the concourse of The Sage. Music included 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious' and 'You've got a friend in me'.

They displayed excellent musicianship and oozed confidence as they entertained their audience. Well done to all involved and a big thanks to Mr Gordon for preparing and inspiring the children.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY		SPRING TERM DATES 2018
Thursday 29th March	Break up for Easter Holidays 3.15pm	
<i>Future dates early next term</i>		
Wednesday 18th April	Pre-School to have a day visit to Hall Hill Farm - all Pre-School children in all day today. More details to follow soon.	
Monday 23rd April	Big Spring Clean - Annual litter pick up in Tanfield. We will focus on tidying Tanfield woods. (Adjacent to our school grounds).	
Thursday 26 th April	Y5 and Y6 to visit Durham Cathedral	